

# Guv plans energy summit next month

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Gov. Jon M. Huntsman Jr. has called for a summit to explore how to develop - and conserve - **Utah's** energy resources.

Next month's Energy Summit will be piggybacked on the National Governors Association resource committee meeting. Huntsman leads that panel along with New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson, a Democratic presidential candidate.

Governors from around the nation, Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman and Interior Secretary Dirk Kempthorne have been invited to speak at the April 15-17 summit.

Also expected to participate are representatives of environmental advocacy groups, the oil and gas industry, renewable energy companies and other commercial interests.

"It's very important, obviously, to define where the West can meet national [energy] needs," said Laura Nelson, Huntsman's energy policy adviser. "Even though there's a diversity of energy policies, we still can come together to discuss some complex issues."

The summit will be held at the Little America hotel in Salt Lake City. Panel discussions and presentations will focus on the nation's rising demand for energy, challenges and opportunities in new energy technology development, carbon constraints, and the shifting global energy market - as well as successful energy efficiency and conservation programs.

An expert panel will discuss how to further diversify the nation's energy portfolio. Options to be studied include increased use of renewable energy sources, energy efficiency, biofuels, advanced coal generation and unconventional fuels such as oil shale and tar sands.

A session on climate change, energy security and the impacts of rising global energy demands also is planned. That will include representatives from the National Resources Defense Council, the National Wind Coordinating Council and coal industry representatives.